

The Timothy Ball House
425 Ridgewood Road
Maplewood, Essex County, New Jersey

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey
Seymour Williams, A.I.A., District Officer
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

The Timothy Ball House
425 Ridgewood Road
Maplewood, Essex County, New Jersey

Owner: E.A. Ball
Munsey, Indiana

Date of Erection: 1743

Architect:

Builder: Timothy and Esther Ball

Present Condition: Good

Number of Stories: Two

Materials of Construction: Foundation - stone

Exterior walls - frame
construction with stone
fireplace end

Interior walls - plaster

Inside brick chimneys

Roof - pitch with recent
dormers, wood shingles

Historical Data:

In the front chimney above the peak of the roof is a stone inscribed "T. and E. B. 1743" indicating that the original house was built by Timothy and Esther Ball in that year. The building was altered

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in 1772 and "restored" in 1919.

Tradition has it that the grandfather of Timothy Ball was related to the mother of Washington. While Washington was at Morristown he used the mountain top, now marked by a tablet on a bolder and known as Washington Rock, to observe the movements of the British troops at Elizabethtown and Staten Island. On these occasions he would visit Usal Ball and passed numerous nights at the homestead, and as a precaution, his horse was stabled in the kitchen. Washington recognized the Balls as distant relatives calling them cousins.

This structure has been called Ye Old Washington Inn and has been used as a meeting place for patriotic and historical societies. The large upper room seats approximately one hundred people. The interior has been modernized and aside from the general layout, there is not much on architectural interest in the interior. It is still used as an inn.

Bibliography:

Clark, G.W. Struggles and Triumphs of a Long Life Philadelphia, Griffith and Rowland Press, 1909

Books and records searched by Mrs.
E. G. Ten Eyk

Halter Edgett
Supervising Historian

Approved:

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District Officer

2w. Jan 25 '37 TTB